

Unit 2 Exam ver 1 (each correct response to the multiple choice questions is worth 2 points, each short answer is worth 10 points; exam is worth 90 points)

Multiple Choice

Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

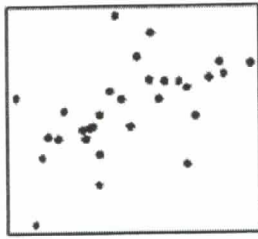
- C 1. In a study of the effects of alcohol consumption, some participants drank a nonalcoholic beverage that actually smelled and tasted like alcohol. This nonalcoholic drink was a
 - a. dependent variable.
 - b. replication.
 - c. placebo.
 - d. random sample.
 - e. double blind.

- A 2. The enduring traditions, attitudes, and behaviors shared by a large group of people constitutes their
 - a. culture.
 - b. normal curve.
 - c. wording effects.
 - d. statistical significance.
 - e. operational definition.

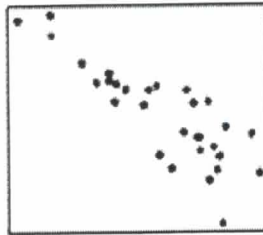
- A 3. A researcher interested in investigating the attitudes or opinions of a large sample of people is most likely to use which research method?
 - a. survey
 - b. correlation
 - c. experiment
 - d. case study
 - e. naturalistic observation

- A 4. A moderate positive correlation has been found between a person's weight and hours of television watched per week. Which of the following scatterplots best shows this relationship?

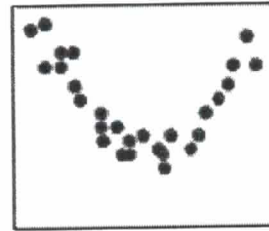
(Drawings 1-4 taken from www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~teachers/2003/regression/classnotesfilledin.doc)



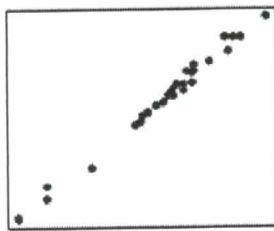
(1)



(2)



(5)



(3)



(4)

- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. 5

- E 5. Hypotheses are best described as

- a. assumptions.
- b. replications.
- c. explanations.
- d. confirmations.
- e. predictions.

- A 6. The belief that weather conditions signal the onset of arthritis pain best illustrates
- a. an illusory correlation.
 - b. operational definition.
 - c. the hindsight bias.
 - d. overconfidence.
 - e. random sampling.

- C 7. Mr. and Mrs. Berry have five children aged 2, 3, 7, 9, and 9. The median age of the Berry children is
- 3.
 - 6.
 - 7.
 - 8.
 - 9.
- B 8. Correlational research is most useful for purposes of
- explanation.
 - prediction.
 - control.
 - replication.
 - experimentation.
- A 9. The scientific attitude of humility is most likely to be undermined by
- the hindsight bias.
 - correlational evidence.
 - random assignment.
 - operational definitions.
 - naturalistic observation.
- D 10. Professional psychological associations require researchers to
- study animals only in their natural environment.
 - obtain informed consent before using any animals as subjects in research.
 - justify the use of animals in research before an Institutional Review Board (IRB).
 - minimize infection, illness, and pain in animal subjects.
 - protect only cats, dogs, and primates, not mice or rats, from unnecessary pain.
- C 11. In 1963, Stanley Milgram reported that 65% of research participants, at the request of the experimenter, would administer phony shocks that they considered real, to a stranger. He demonstrated how obedient humans can be to authority figures. Some critics contend that Milgram's findings cannot be used to predict behavior in real life. How might Milgram respond to this criticism?
- "Laboratory research is like 'real life' so results can be used to predict such behavior."
 - "It's impossible to study obedience in the 'real world' so laboratory research is the only option."
 - "Laboratory research allows you to identify general principles that do generalize to other 'real world' contexts."
 - "All valuable psychological research is conducted in the lab."
 - "The situation was not artificial, but justifiable in demonstrating the impact of the situation on human behavior."

- C 12. Which of the following is a measure of the degree of variation among a set of events?
- mean
 - scatterplot
 - standard deviation
 - median
 - correlation coefficient
- B 13. What do scientists call an explanation that organizes observations and predicts future behaviors or events?
- hypothesis
 - theory
 - critical thinking
 - operational definition
 - replication
- B 14. A questioning attitude regarding psychologists' assumptions and hidden values best illustrates
- hypotheses.
 - critical thinking.
 - the hindsight bias.
 - overconfidence.
 - illusory correlation.
- C 15. If the correlation between the physical weight and reading ability of children is +0.85, this would indicate that
- there is very little statistical relationship between weight and reading ability among children.
 - low body weight has a negative effect on the reading abilities of children.
 - better reading ability is associated with greater physical weight among children.
 - body weight has no causal influence on the reading abilities of children.
 - weight is a causal variable dependent on reading ability.
- B 16. To understand the unusual behavior of an adult client, a clinical psychologist carefully investigates the client's current life situation and his physical, social-cultural, and educational history. Which research method has the psychologist used?
- the survey
 - the case study
 - experimentation
 - naturalistic observation
 - correlation

- E 17. An extensive survey revealed that children with relatively high self-esteem tend to picture God as kind and loving, whereas those with lower self-esteem tend to perceive God as angry. The researchers concluded that the children's self-esteem had apparently influenced their views of God. This conclusion best illustrates the danger of
- perceiving order in random events.
 - generalizing from extreme examples.
 - randomly sampling children's views.
 - exaggerating the extent to which others share our beliefs.
 - assuming that correlation proves causation.
- A 18. In a group of five individuals, two report annual incomes of \$10,000, and the other three report incomes of \$14,000, \$15,000, and \$31,000, respectively. The mode of this group's distribution of annual incomes is
- \$10,000.
 - \$15,000.
 - \$16,000.
 - \$31,000.
 - \$80,000.
- C 19. Psychologists' personal values and goals
- are carefully tested by means of observation and experimentation.
 - lead them to avoid experiments involving human participants.
 - can bias their observations and interpretations.
 - have very little influence on the process of scientific observation.
 - affect their work only if they are different from the norm.
- B 20. To compare the pace of life in different countries, investigators measured the speed with which postal clerks completed a simple request. This best illustrates the use of a research method known as
- the case study.
 - naturalistic observation.
 - random assignment.
 - the double-blind procedure.
 - the survey.
- A 21. Which of the following generalizations about culture and gender is most correct?
- Even when specific attitudes and behaviors vary by gender or across cultures, underlying principles are often very similar.
 - Culture is such a powerful influence on behavior, psychologists do not generalize principles across different cultures.
 - Many psychological theories apply to people from different cultures, but theories are interpreted differently for each gender.
 - Culture and gender are influences on some personality variables, but not general psychological theories or behaviors.
 - Culture and gender are biological variables, which should not impact behaviors.

- C 22. Coach Vroman attended a clinic to improve his basketball coaching skills. Afterward, he randomly assigned his seventh-grade players to two groups: Group 1 will be coached by the new method and Group 2 will be coached by his old method. He then measured their performance at one team practice to judge the effectiveness of the new coaching method. Which of the following might affect the statistical significance of his study?
- a. Approval from an Institutional Review Board (IRb. was not obtained before beginning his study.
 - b. To determine the effectiveness of the new method, Coach Vroman must first find the median score of each group.
 - c. By testing only two groups, Coach Vroman's sample size may be too small and unrepresentative.
 - d. Coach Vroman should wait until next year to test the incoming freshman because his sample was biased.
 - e. A third variable, such as height, might affect the relationship between the two variables.
- D 23. Researchers are interested in studying the impact of drugs on human fetuses. In this case, why would a correlational study be more appropriate than an experiment?
- a. because cause and effect can only be determined by a correlational study
 - b. because correlational studies allow you to observe behavior in nonartificial environments
 - c. because researchers using correlational studies may generalize to the population from an atypical case
 - d. because participants could not be ethically assigned to an experimental or control condition
 - e. because correlational studies permit researchers to estimate the reported behaviors of a whole population
- E 24. In a drug treatment study, participants given a pill containing no actual drug are receiving a(n)
- a. random sample.
 - b. experimental treatment.
 - c. double-blind.
 - d. replication.
 - e. placebo.
- C 25. Which of the following defines ethical principles that should guide human experimentation?
- a. control group, random sampling, random assignment
 - b. case study, naturalistic observation, survey
 - c. informed consent, protection from harm, confidentiality, debriefing
 - d. volunteer participants only, no deception, incentives for participation
 - e. effect size, statistical significance, measures of central tendency, variation

- E 26. The hindsight bias leads people to perceive research findings as
- invalid.
 - unpredictable.
 - inexplicable.
 - unreplicable.
 - unsurprising.
- D 27. In a test of the effects of sleep deprivation on problem-solving skills, research participants are allowed to sleep either 4 or 8 hours on each of three consecutive nights. This research is an example of
- naturalistic observation.
 - survey research.
 - a case study.
 - an experiment.
 - a correlational study.
- D 28. Historians of science describe which three attitudes as the basis of the scientific viewpoint?
- intelligence, dedication, thoroughness
 - morality, detail-orientation, cynicism
 - achievement-oriented, intellectual, empirical
 - curiosity, skepticism, humility
 - atheism, humanism, cognition
- E 29. Megan was certain that she would never live far away from her family. However, in order to further her career, she decided to move. Megan's experience best illustrates
- the hindsight bias.
 - illusory correlation.
 - random assignment.
 - the empirical approach.
 - overconfidence.
- B 30. Why are researchers so careful about drawing conclusions regarding statistical significance?
- Statistical significance determines which research method should be used for a hypothesis.
 - They want to make sure an observed difference isn't due to chance.
 - Statistical significance is primarily a subjective decision, so researchers need to be more careful.
 - They need to make sure the results are important.
 - Statistical significance is used in case studies, not experiments, so researchers do not have a control group to rely on.

- C 31. Psychologists who carefully watch the behavior of chimpanzee societies in the jungle are using a research method known as
- the survey.
 - experimentation.
 - naturalistic observation.
 - the case study.
 - random sampling.
- B 32. Professor Woo noticed that the distribution of students' scores on her last biology test had an extremely small standard deviation. This indicates that the
- test was given to a very small class of students.
 - students' scores tended to be very similar to one another.
 - mean test score was lower than the median score.
 - students generally performed very well on the test.
 - test was a poor measure of the students' knowledge.
- D 33. The arithmetic average of a distribution of scores is the
- mode.
 - median.
 - standard deviation.
 - mean.
 - range.
- B 34. The difference between the highest and lowest scores in a distribution is the
- mean.
 - range.
 - median.
 - standard deviation.
 - correlation coefficient.
- E 35. Which procedure helps to ensure that the participants in a survey are representative of a larger population?
- random assignment
 - replication
 - correlation
 - naturalistic observation
 - random sampling

Short Answer

- When your best friend hears that you are taking a psychology course, she asserts that psychology is simply common sense. Explain why your awareness of both the limits of everyday reasoning and the methods of psychological research would lead you to disagree with your friend's assertion.

2. Design an experiment to test whether alcohol consumption influences people's tendency to become socially aggressive. In your experimental design, identify the following experimental elements and procedures: hypothesis, random sampling, random assignment, experimental group, control group, independent variable, dependent variable, ethics in research.

SHORT ANSWER

1. ANS:

Student responses should refer to a specific limit of everyday reasoning, such as hindsight bias or overconfidence and at least one of the methods of psychological research, referring specifically to why psychologists gather data through research methods in order to reach empirical decisions.

PTS: 1 REF: Section- Research Methods: Thinking Critically With Psychological Science
MSC: Conceptual | Application

2. ANS:

Students should design an experiment in which the hypothesis identifies alcohol as the independent variable and social aggression as the dependent variable. Students should also distinguish the experimental group (the group that consumes alcohol) from the control group (the group that does not consume alcohol and/or consumes a placebo). Finally, students should include at least one detail about complying with ethical guidelines from the research with human participants.

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